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Ouchou Haru no Yoi no Romance

by

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Information

"The Travels of a Youth from Changle"

"The Travels of a Youth from Changle" is the title of a five-character regular verse poem written by Tang Dynasty poet Cui Guo-Fu (each line contains exactly five characters). Changle is a city located in Southeast Fujian Province in China, and was established in the sixth year of Emperor Wu De during the Tang Dynasty.

The coral whip was left behind,
The white horse I ride refuses to walk.
Breaking off a willow-sprig in Shoudai,
Romance by the spring-grass path.

There are a number of different interpretations of this poem, though the most commonly accepted one describes a young man falling in love with a maiden, and giving her a willow branch as a gift. Other interpretations include a man flirting with a prostitute (thus explaining Zhangtai (Shoudai), the red-light district), and the literal interpretation that a man forgot to bring his coral ornamented whip for the horse, and therefore uses a willow branch as a replacement.

Koh Akizuki & Ichi Yuzuki Present

王朝春宵ロマンセ

【おうちょうしゅんしょうのよいのロマンセ】
Ouchou Haru no Yoi no Romance

2

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Heisei! Haru no Yoiko no Romance Gakuen
【巻末まんが】
平成! 春の良い子のロマンセ学園
● 168

...ARE YOU SCARED?
A LITTLE...
I'M SCARED TOO.
THE THOUGHT THAT YOU'LL HATE ME FOR DOING THIS...
FRIGHTENS ME...

王朝春宵ロマンセ 五ノ巻

［おうちょう・はるのよいの・ロマンセ］

Ouchou Haru no Yoi no Romance

Chapter 5

softly
NO.
ARE YOU COLD?
nudge
MM...
shiver

kiss...
AH...
haa
lick
MM...
lick
NN...
lick
Nn
Nn
Nn
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...YOU DON'T LIKE IT?
...NO.
...I SEE.
I'M GLAD.
TO BE ABLE TO TOUCH YOU LIKE THIS..
IT FEELS LIKE I'M DREAMING

SENJU
k'ss
MM
HOW IS IT?

IT'S NOT BAD AT ALL.
IS IT BAD?
I SEE.
SO YOU'RE OKAY WITH IT
Ah...
.....
I want him to lick my lips like he did before...
What was it called..?

Would it be alright if I asked for it...?
WHAT IS IT?
But I want it...
I want to do it...
MM..
NN
NN

YES.
I'M GLAD.
SENJU,
DO YOU LIKE DOING THIS?
Mm
Ah
Ah
Ah

!!
IT'S SWOLLEN..
PLEASE ALLOW ME TO CURE IT.
ARE..
ARE YOU OKAY WITH THAT?
YES, I'M FINE.
PLEASE LET ME DO IT.
R-REALLY.
IN THAT CASE,
P-PLEASE DO.
YES.
rustle
rustle
rustle
stroke
stroke
stroke
stroke

SENJU
SENJU
I WANT TO FEEL YOU TOO
IS THAT ALRIGHT? OR NO?
NO
WHY SAID
N-NOT
I'M SORRY

IT'S MY FIRST TIME DOING SOMETHING LIKE THIS.
I DON'T DISLIKE IT I'M JUST EMBARRASSED.
"SOMETHING LIKE THIS"?
DO YOU MEAN WHAT I'M DOING RIGHT NOW?
AH!
OR DO YOU MEAN SWELLING UP LIKE THIS?
rub
I-
I DON'T KNOW"
rub
I SEE BUT IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE YOU DISLIKE IT
I DON'T KNOW.
I SHOULD HAVE LIT A LAMP
COULD IT BE THAT YOU'RE POUTING RIGHT NOW?

PL-
PLEASE LET GO!
AH!!
AH
IT'S ONLY BECAUSE YOU'RE..
M-MAKING FUN OF SOMETHING I'M EMBARRASSED ABOUT !
AH!
stroke
stroke

Y-YES..
WAIT, IT'LL DIRTY YOUR HAND ..!
I-IT'S ALMOST
I DON'T KNOW, B-BUT ..
ARE YOU COMING?
shake
shake
IS THIS YOUR FIRST TIME COMING?
Ah

Nn!!
AH.
...WAS IT GOOD?
tremble
tremble
Ah
I'M SO SORRY!
ONLY I CAME..
NO, IT'S NOTHING.

I'LL KEEP THIS TISSUE AS A TREASURE...
Eh!?
Le
Let Go!
Ah
Mm!
!?
tremble

Spit it out!
GRAB
What are you doing?
Hurry!
Is this what they have cmbo do?
I APOLOGIZE FOR BEING UNABLE TO SWALLOW IT
I SAW SOME FRIENDS DO IT LIKE THIS
PLEASE FORGIVE ME'
TO AVOID GETTING ANY CLOTHES DIRTY.

I SEE.
YES.
YOUR FIRST TIME?
WAS THIS.
COME HERE.
DOESN'T IT FEEL BAD INSIDE YOUR MOUTH?
NO.
THEN IS IT OKAY FOR ME TO SUCK ON YOUR LIPS?
T-THAT'S ..
PLEASE DON'T ..!
AH!

MM
YUCK.
THAT'S WHY I TOLD YOU TO STOP!
EVEN SO, YOU..
TOOK IT IN YOUR MOUTH.
I CAN'T STAND IT.
I LOVE YOU SO MUCH..

THAT'S..
I WANT TO HOLD YOU WHILE YOU SLEEP..
MAY I?
YOU'RE SO PRECIOUS..
THAT I FEEL LIKE MY HEART IS ABOUT TO BURST
MOROE-SAMA
I WANT TO SLEEP TOGETHER IN THE SAME FUTON.
And hug you also
IF THE OVERNIGHT SERVANTS FIND OUT THAT WE'RE LOVERS WHEN THEY COME TO WAKE US..
WOULD THAT BOTHER YOU?
NOT AT ALL.

MAY YOU ASSIST ME?
YES
I NEED TO BATHE TOMORROW TO PURIFY MYSELF FOR THE FESTIVAL,
SO WE HAVE TO WAKE UP EARLIER THAN USUAL
THEN LET'S SLEEP
I'M NOT GOING TO PEEK
HEH
!

NARIHIRA-DONO, YOU'RE ALREADY HERE.
splash
IT SEEMS LIKE SOME-THING GOOD HAPPENED LAST NIGHT.
YES, THANKS TO YOUR ADVICE.
rustle
rustle
I'LL GET THE FULL DETAILS FROM YOU LATER WHEN WE'RE ALONE...
BUT COULD YOU DO ME A FAVOR?

WHEN YOU PUT IT OUT IN THE OPEN LIKE THAT,
ITS ELEGANCE IS LOST.
Oh, I see I have to keep it a secret
LOVE IS MORE PROFOUND WHEN IT'S KEPT SECRET
Oh my.
AS LONG AS YOU REALIZE SENJU IS MY LOVER,
I WILL.
IT'S NO WONDER FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU, BUT .
TO ALLOW SUCH A PRETTY BOY TO WEAR RAGS ON HIS BACK...
Hehe
He doesn't know anything
Chuckle
This guy.
Ah
EVEN A DOWNER SHOULD TAKE NOTICE OF THESE THINGS.

I DON'T MIND, BUT WHY DID YOU ASK ME?
Hm
I CAN'T JUST SHOWER GIFTS ON ANOTHER PERSON'S LOVER WITHOUT THEIR CONSENT.
IS THAT RIGHT?
SO AS FOR MY REQUEST,
I WOULD LIKE TO PRESENT SENJU WITH A NEW SET OF CLOTHES.
SPLASH
REMEMBER THAT IF SOMEONE GIVES YOU GIFTS OR LETTERS,
THEY HAVE AN ULTERIOR MOTIVE
UM..
SENJU,
IT'LL BE QUICKER FOR ME TO TEACH YOU.

I WENT OUT OF MY WAY TO ASK YOU FIRST TO CLEAR THE SUSPICION...
Like always... nothing I say seems to get through to your head
Ah
Geez
You!
Do you have ulterior motives!?
Thunk
SPLASH
Sigh
Sorry
YES!
IN THAT CASE,
YOU CAN ACCEPT NARIHIRA-DONO'S GIFT WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT ANY ULTERIOR MOTIVES.
Hmm
what's so funny
I don't know either
Ha
Ha
Ha
As I thought, like master, like servant
Ha
Ha
Ha
Ha
Ha

open
IS IT ALRIGHT FOR ME TO ACCEPT IT?
whoa..
AS EXPECTED FROM THE FLAMBOYANT NARIHIRA-DONO.
IT'S A SUIKAN WITH SUOU BROCADES.*
FOR SOMEONE OF MY STATUS...
TO WEAR THIS...
IT'S FINE. IT WAS HAND PICKED BY THE WORLDLY NARIHIRA-DONO.
GO AHEAD AND TRY IT ON.
splash
splash

* Suikan - a shorter, less formal robe. It can be worn as a formal visiting garment, as a uniform for a nobleman's servant, or as part of the ceremonial dress of a warrior

* Brocade - richly decorative shuttle-woven fabric pattern often made with colored silk

* Suou - Sappanwood, a plant often used to make a dark reddish purple colored dye in ancient Japan

I SEE
YOU LOOK EVEN MORE BEAUTIFUL WITH THIS
I KNEW IT'D LOOK GOOD ON YOU.
YOU LOOK LIKE A YOUNG NOBLEMAN.
OH
LET'S TRY PUTTING THIS ON YOU.
I'LL DO IT
GRAB

YES.
I'M JEA-LOUS.
DO I DETECT JEA-LOUSY?
YOU'RE JUST LIKE A FLOWER.
IT PAINS ME..
THAT YOUR GIFT FITS HIM SO WELL.
ha ha
YOU'RE SO HONEST.
.....

OH THAT'S RIGHT
PLEASE SELECT A GOOD ONE!
YES!
thump
thump
thump

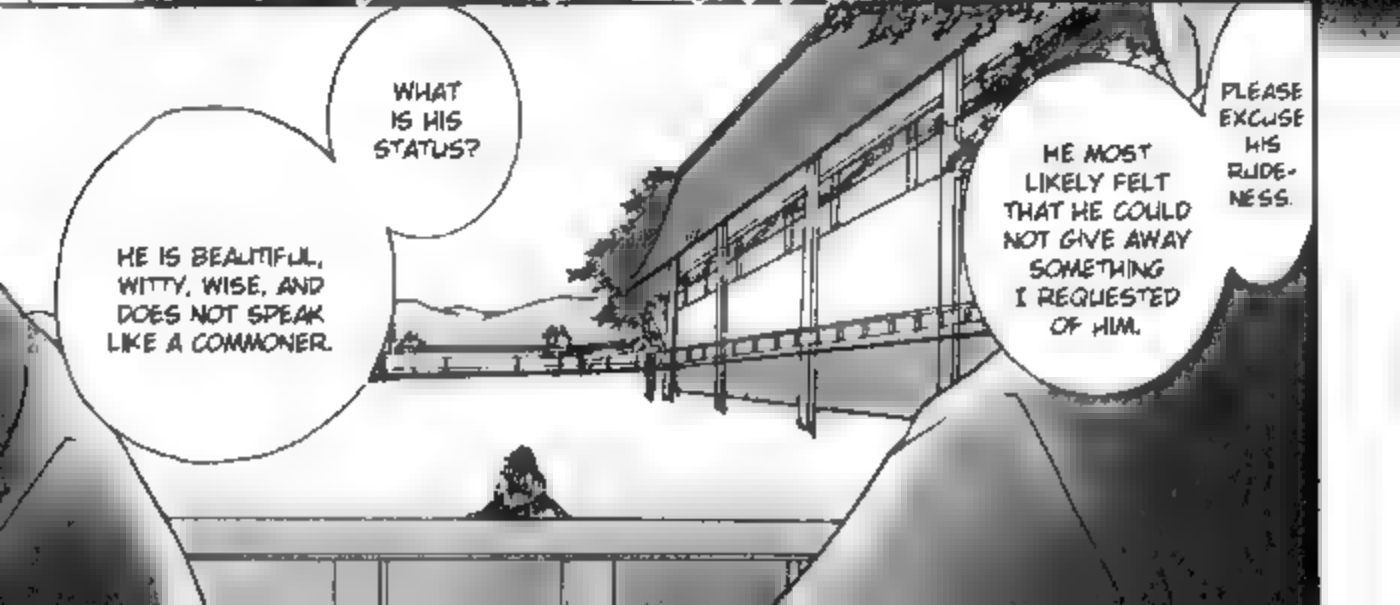
EXCUSE ME!
I'M HERE ON AN ERRAND!
IS ANYONE HERE?
EXCUSE ME!
silence...
.....
turn
turn
OH NO...
HOW AM I TO FULFILL NARIHIRA-SAMA'S REQUEST LIKE THIS?
HERE!
LITTLE BOY!

He looks like a nobleman...
But Narihira-sama entrusted this to me.
I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THAT HOLLYHOCK SPRIG.
bow
PLEASE FORGIVE ME.
THE "CORAL WHIP THAT WAS LEFT BEHIND."
I BROUGHT THIS "WILLOW SPRIG FROM SHOUDAI" AT SOMEONE'S REQUEST, TO REPLACE. *
I APOLOGIZE,
THE ONE CHASING AFTER THE "ROMANCE BY THE SPRING-GRASS PATH."
AND TROUBLED BY "THE WHITE HORSE THAT REFUSES TO WALK"?
I WONDER WHO'S WITHOUT THEIR "CORAL WHIP,"
Ho Ho

* Zhangtai, or in Japanese, Shoudai, is the name of a red light district in ancient China.

SENJU! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW YOUR NAME.
OH MY, YOU'VE RESPONDED BEAUTIFULLY.
NARIHIRA-SAMA!
SO YOU KNOW THIS CHILD.
LEFT MAJOR GENERAL, DID HE DO SOMETHING TO OFFEND YOU?
HO HO
I ASKED FOR HIS HOLLYHOCK.
BUT I WAS EFFECTIVELY COUNTERED BY A VERSE FROM "THE TRAVELS OF A YOUTH FROM CHANGLE."*

* "The Travels of a Youth from Changle" is the title of a poem written by Tang Dynasty poet Cui Hao that was popular in


WHAT IS HIS STATUS?
HE IS BEAUTIFUL, WITTY, WISE, AND DOES NOT SPEAK LIKE A COMMONER.
HE MOST LIKELY FELT THAT HE COULD NOT GIVE AWAY SOMETHING I REQUESTED OF HIM.
PLEASE EXCUSE HIS RUDENESS.

I WAS TOLD THAT HE RETIRED
SO THIS BOY IS HIS RELATIVE
ACT-UALLY
HE IS THE CHERISHED SON OF JIEN AJARI.
SENJU! AT THE REQUEST OF THE LEFT MAJOR GENERAL.
PRESENT HIM WITH THAT HOLLY-HOCK
HE IS CURRENTLY A SERVANT FOR SUZURISHI-DONO AT THE IMPERIAL ARCHIVES *
MORDE-DONO?
step
step
step

AND SUZURIISHI-DONO IS DOING WELL BY UPHOLDING RIGHTEOUS CONDUCT.
TELL HIM IT IS FROM ME
THEN PLEASE PASS THIS MESSAGE TO SUZURIISHI-DONO.
THE EMPEROR HOLDS A STRONG TRUST TOWARDS THE FUJIWARA CLAN,
SENJU!
I UNDER-STAND.
rustle
rustle
Moroe-sama was commended.

THE HOLLY-HOCK IS A NECESSARY ORNAMENT FOR TODAY'S PURIFICATION CEREMONY.
EVERY YEAR, SOMEONE WILL WANT TO REPLACE THEIRS WHEN IT FALLS OR BREAKS
THAT WAS AMONG THE MOST SUCCESSFUL MEN OF THE FUJIWARA CLAN, LEFT MAJOR GENERAL FUJI-WARA YOSHIMI.
WE WERE LUCKY TO LURE HIM IN WITH THE HOLLYHOCK.
*Misogi no Gi, one of a number of customary practices before the Hollyhock Festival. See C.I. #4 for information.
LURE?
WHY WOULD WE DO THAT ?
TO MAKE CONNECTIONS FOR YOU.
MORCE AND I ARE BOTH LEVEL SIX ARCHIVE KEEPERS,
OR LOWER GOVERN-MENT OFFICIALS.
IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, I THOUGHT IT'D BE WISE TO FIND A BACKUP FOR YOU.

FOR ME.
NOT ONLY DOES MORDE WORK UNDER HIM,
THEY'RE ALSO LONG DISTANCE RELATIVES.
IT APPEARS THAT HE HAS TAKEN A LIKING TO YOU.
IF ANYTHING HAPPENS,
YOU NOW HAVE AN ALLY.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
...BY THE WAY,
I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK...

BUT HUMANS AREN'T BORN FROM TREES.
SO YOU HAVE TO HAVE PARENTS SOME-WHERE.
YOU SAID THAT YOU DON'T KNOW WHO YOUR PARENTS ARE.
YES. I DON'T KNOW.
AND I HAVE A VAGUE IDEA.
OF WHERE TO LOOK.
Could it be...
what...
Could it be that...
I'm your child...!?

ANYWAY!
pat
??
.....
EVEN FOR ME, THAT'S TOO EARLY TO.
I'M 24 YEARS OLD.
NOW NOW, AREN'T YOU 14?
ha ha
I HAVE NO PARENTS.
squeeze
OF FINDING OUT ABOUT YOUR ORIGINS?
YOU STILL HAVE NO INTENTION..

BUT IT'S POSSIBLE THAT IF YOU FIND THEM,
YOU'LL BE WELCOMED BACK INTO A LIFE OF LUXURY.
IT WOULD BE A PITY TO MISS OUT...
Not at all!
SINCE THE DAY THEY ABANDONED ME.
EVEN IF I DO,
THEY SEVERED ALL TIES WITH ME...
I'M SATISFIED JUST HAVING THE MAN WHO SAVED MY LIFE,
AND THE PARENT WHO RAISED ME.

Stop that! Marae will cry!!
Then I don't need it! I'll just peel the skin off!
IS THE CAUSE OF ALL YOUR SUSPICIONS...
IN ANY CASE, IF MY FACE...
I UNDER-STAND.
I WON'T MENTION IT AGAIN.
YES!
PLEASE DON'T ASK AGAIN.
heh

NOW THEN...
THE PURIFICATION CEREMONY IS ABOUT TO BEGIN.
THE EMPEROR WILL BE ATTENDING SAKU-SAMA'S PROCESSION IN THE SOUTHERN COURTYARD OF THE SHI-SHINDEN."
YOU CAN SEE IT FROM THE SOUTHERN GATE OF THE KYOU-SHUDEN."
I WILL ALSO BE RIDING IN WITH "SAGAMI."
YES!
五ノ巻 終

Chara COMICS

王朝春宵ロマンセ

2

秋月こお
唯月一

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世話係として仕える藤原猪兄様に生贄され、戸惑いつつ抱かれた千寿丸。けれど何もかも未知の体験の長い夜に、千寿は猪兄様への恋を自覚していく…。そして翌日から始まった賀茂の祭。斎王様の行列に、公務で加わる猪兄様と別れ、一人で祭見物に出かけた千寿よ、拓尊の追っ手に捕まり、拉致されてしまい？

CHARA COMICS

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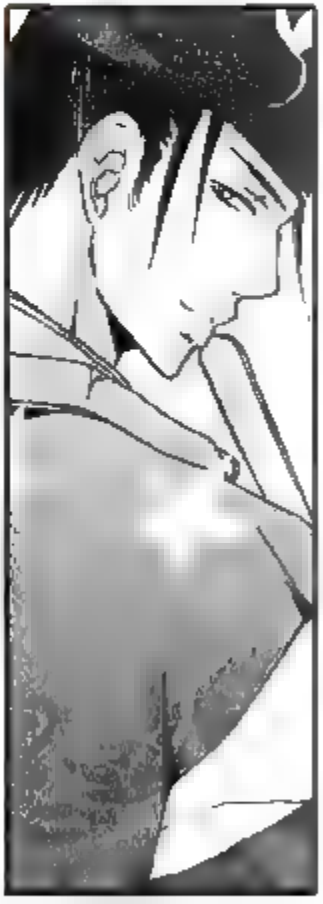
Ouchou Haru no Yoi no Romance



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Happy Birthday Nukko!
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六ノ巻
Chapter 6
王朝春宵ロマンセ
Ouchou Harui Yoino Romance

Ah
WOW. THERE'S ALREADY A CROWD!
I was too slow
chatter
chatter
Keep your head down
Don't push!
I can't see, I can't see
Out of my way! You're blocking the view
MMph!
MMph!
MMph!

HEY YOU, OVER THERE!
YES YOU! COME HERE.
oh— ha—
THANK YOU, BUT .
I'M NOT IN THE POSITION TO. .
chatter
chatter
chatter
I'LL TAKE YOU, SO COME AROUND FROM THE STEPS OVER THERE.
WANT TO WATCH THE CEREMONIAL PROCESSION?
COME ON.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

This is the annual grand festival for the Kamigamo and Shimogamo shrines.
Now known as the Hollyhock Festival...*
place annually
on May 15th. See Ch. 4 Information

ARE YOU SOMEONE'S SERVANT?
YES.
WHAT IS YOUR NAME?
I AM SENJU-MARU
EH!?

HOW OLD ARE YOU?
NN.
So this is why...
I AM 14 YEARS OLD.
I SEE. I SEE.
touch
!!!
AH!
AH!!
PLEASE LOOK!
IT'S MY MASTER'S RIDE!
GRAB

*Houhei - a wand with hemp and paper streamers that is offered to a Shinto God

The one who took the hollyhock earlier!?
So it wasn't Narihira-sama's horse.
THE LEFT MAJOR GENERAL, THE IMPERIAL MESSENGER TO THE SHRINE ENTRUSTED WITH THE HOUHEI, IS YOUR MASTER?*
OH, REALLY?
Well, it's easier just to lie.
YES, THAT'S MY MASTER.
It was a white horse like "Sagami" I spoke too soon

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
WE SHOULD GET A GOOD VIEW FROM OUTSIDE THE TATSUCHI GATE.
THE PROCESSION IS COMING OUT FROM THE IMPERIAL PALACE!!
HURRY UP,
OR WE'LL RUN OUT OF ROOM TO WATCH!
tap
tap
tap
tap
step
step
step
step

weak

That's Narihira-sama!!
OH YES, A GREAT MAN.
MY! LOOK AT THAT GLAMOROUS WARRIOR!
kya
kya
kya
whish
Even in a warrior's apparel
He is still very beautiful...

chatter
CAN YOU SEE THEIR FACES!?
MOVE,
I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING!
Is it even possible to see anything?
chatter
Oh!
IT'S THE PALAN-QUIN!
SAIOU-SAMA'S PALANQUIN IS COMING!*
wah
wah
PUSH
Palanquin - man or horse drawn carriage used to transport members of the warrior class and nobility
mmph
mmph
mmph
LOOK AT THE ESCORT WITH THE PALANQUIN! THAT'S A FINE LOOKING GIRL.
WHICH?
WHICH ONE?
WHICH ONE IS SHE?
hmm
EH, HM...
THE FOURTH GIRL!
AWW ...
I CAN'T SEE!!
squeeze
squeeze
squeeze
squeeze

Moroe-sama...
squeeze
bent
bent
bent
When did...
My heart start fluttering at the sight of him...?

Ah...
And that...
And did this...
And then,
I was held by those arms.
Last night...
With those lips, I...
Ah!!
?
rustle

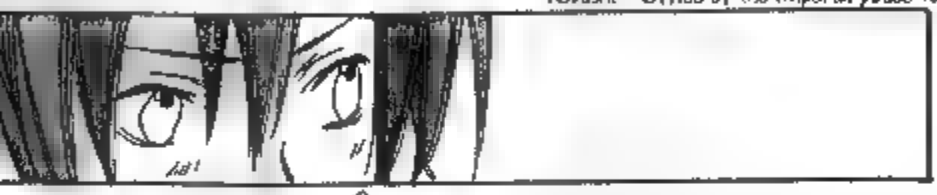
!!
grin
I FOUND YOU.
SNAP
STEP
STEP
STEP
hehe

"I found you."
That's right! The only one who would say that is one of Takuson's underlings!
Who could it be?
PLEASE LET ME THROUGH . !!
PLEASE LET ME THROUGH ..!
Who was that?
They're still...
Searching for me...!?
They've been looking for me!?
STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP
He's catching up!!
STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP
haa

Shuumei Gate!!
What should I do?
haa
What can I do!?
naa
haa
WHOA THERE.
STEP
STEP
STEP
WHO ARE YOU?
MY NAME IS SENJUMARU!
I AM A RETAINER OF FUJIWARA MORDE-SAMA, THE KEEPER OF THE IMPERIAL ARCHIVES!
PLEASE HELP ME!

PLEASE,
LET ME THROUGH!
WHEN I WAS WATCHING THE FESTIVAL PROCESSIONS,
A SUSPICIOUS LOOKING MAN STARTED CHASING AFTER ME.
dash
OKAY, YOU MAY PASS.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
HEY!
YOU TWO, DON'T BLOCK ME!
STEP
STEP
STEP
BEYOND THIS POINT IS THE IMPERIAL PALACE!
WHAT IS YOUR BUSINESS HERE?
STATE YOUR NAME AND STATUS.
I AM.
AH.. UM...
RATTLE
PUSH

* Kebushi – Office of the imperial police force in the Heian and Kamakura periods



I SEE. . HOWEVER, THIS IS THE INNER PALACE.
IT'S NOT A PLACE FOR COMMONERS, SO GO BACK!
I'M CHASING AN ESCAPED CHIGO!
HE JUST RAN IN HERE!
I cannot allow this kind of trouble to soil the purity of the sacred ceremony!
Now that Takuson's underlings know where I am!
I'll have to seek Moroe-sama's protection... But I can't do it now.

"Monshu Takuson."
They must've forced Ajari-sama to retire as a monshu. I wonder where he is now...
After protecting me and helping me escape, I wonder if Yurimaru is doing alright as well...
I pray that nothing horrible has happened to them...
IT'LL BE FINE IF I DON'T LEAVE THE INNER PALACE
...
MM...

The Next Day
I CAN'T STAND IT!
I WON'T ACCEPT NARIHIRA-DONO GETTING AHEAD OF ME
hmm
IS THAT WHY YOU CAME ALL THE WAY BACK HOME?
ha
ha
ha
YES. PLEASE BRING OUT MY OLD CLOTHES.
PLEASE COME WITH ME TO MY MOTHER'S QUARTERS.
I WOULD LIKE YOU TO WEAR THE CLOTHES I GIVE YOU FOR TOMORROW'S SIGHT-SEEING.
I WANTED TO GIVE YOU SOMETHING NEW, BUT IT'LL TAKE SEVERAL DAYS TO MAKE IT.

IT SEEMS YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO IS ANNOYED...
AFTER BEING SURPASSED BY NARIHIRA-SAMA.
THAT'S WONDERFUL! IT REALLY SUITS YOU!
RATHER THAN FLASHY BROCADE, A SUBTLE ELEGANT STYLE IS MUCH MORE FITTING.
THIS... IS FOR ME!?
I'M GLAD YOU LIKE IT.
AND ALSO, MOROE-DONO.
I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK
YES, WHAT IS IT, MOTHER?

THEN COULD YOU LEND SENJU TO ME FOR A DAY TOMORROW?
YOU'LL BE ACCOMPANYING SAIOU-SAMA TOMORROW, CORRECT?
YES.
YOUR FATHER RETURNED YESTERDAY,
AND SAID, "LET'S SIT TOGETHER IN THE VERANDA TOMORROW."
AH,
ARE YOU GOING TO SIGHTSEE?
YES.
I'LL MAKE SURE HE DOES.
WILL HE BE ABLE TO RETURN IN THE EVENING?
THEN ONCE THE GATE OPENS, I'LL SEND HIM OVER.

REMEMBER TO COMPLIMENT EVERYONE'S APPEARANCE ONCE YOU ARRIVE.
I'LL TRUST YOU TO ACCOMPANY MY MOTHER TOMORROW
SO THERE YOU HAVE IT
ah
MY.
DID YOU LEARN THAT FROM NARIHIRA-SAMA?
I UNDER-STAND.
I-I'M SORRY ..
heh
heh
heh
YOU CALL IT WISDOM, BUT IT'S REALLY JUST COMMON SENSE
I AT LEAST HAVE THAT MUCH WISDOM.
heh

So this is what a "parent-child relationship" is.
I'm a little envious..
Just a little bit...
Said something like that...
That evening.
During the festival bedroom activities are strictly forbidden and two men's days of purity should be observed, but...
IT'S TOO LONELY TO SLEEP ALONE.
Moroe-sama, he...

Oh no.
With Moroe-sama sleeping next to me,
My body is remembering...
Sealed his tantalizing lips with mine.
Last night, how Moroe-sama...
Moroe-sama's...
The movement of his fingers
And,
As they slipped in between my legs...
His resounding heartbeats.
SENJU ..?

ME TOO..
thump
How can my body act so shamelessly..!?
Yes
Can't fall asleep?
Ah...
Morde-sama is also enduring it..
No.
UM.
ISN'T IT BETTER TO SLEEP SEPARATELY?
thump
thump

touch
I FEEL THE SAME.
I KNOW WE'LL BE STRUCK BY GOD'S THUNDER IF WE INTERRUPT RELIGIOUS ABSTINENCE.
BUT EVEN SO... I WANT YOU RIGHT NOW
UP UNTIL NOW, I NEVER KNEW THAT.
LUST COULD BE SO DIFFICULT TO HOLD BACK.
haa
thump
If that's the case...
HOW-EVER.
thump
REALLY?
ENJOY-ABLE?
YES.
BUT HOLDING BACK LIKE THIS...
CAN ALSO BE ENJOY-ABLE

YOU CAN THINK OF THIS SUFFERING...
AS EQUAL TO THE AMOUNT OF LOVE I HAVE FOR YOU...
I DON'T GET IT
I DON'T GET IT AT ALL...
grab
MY BODY ACHES,
ALL I FEEL IS PAIN.
rub
rub
JUST CONSIDER IT FROM A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE.
thump
Moroe-sama has also gotten hot and hard there, hasn't he!?
thump
thump
CONSIDER THE PAIN...
FROM A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE?

TO THINK THAT I'VE LIVED FOR 25 YEARS.
WITHOUT KNOWING THE FEELING OF LOVE.
NOT UNTIL
I MET YOU.
DID I UNDER-STAND
ONLY AFTER I KNEW...
DID I UNDER-STAND WHY NARUHIRA-DONO LOVES ROMANCE SO MUCH
BEFORE, THE SUNLIGHT MERELY BROUGHT LIGHT TO ME, BUT
WITH THE HAPPINESS OF YOU BEING BESIDE ME,
EVEN THE SUN SEEMS TO BE GLOWING GOLD.

AND YOU HAVE THE SAME FEELINGS AS ME
THE FEELING OF BEING IN LOVE
slide
grab
MO MORDE-SAMA!?
AH''
AND THAT GLOW IS REVEALING TO ME THE BEAUTY
OF THINGS AROUND ME THAT I'VE NEVER NOTICED BEFORE

Ah
AH!!
THAT'S . !
SENJU.
SENJU .. I CAN'T HOLD BACK MY FEELINGS FOR YOU..
IF ONLY I COULD EXPLORE THE BOUNDARIES OF THIS FEELING WITH YOU. !
rub
rub
rub
NN .
MM...
BUT .
FOR NOW WE'LL HAVE TO BEAR WITH THIS PAIN.
YES.

I...
AM ALSO HAPPY
haa
haa
haa
YES.
ME TOO
BUT COMPARED TO NOT KNOWING WHAT "LOVE" IS. .
I AM INFINITELY HAPPIER NOW ..
I can't hold back if this continues...!!
No more...
AH!
squeeze
gulp

THAT'S A GOOD IDEA!
LET'S SLEEP BACK TO BACK THEN.
rustle rustle
HOW-EVER
NEITHER OF US WILL BE ABLE TO SLEEP LIKE THIS
MORIE-SAMA?
Just a little more, and I would've dirtied Morie-sama...
rub
rub
rub

EVEN KNOWING BOTH OF US WILL SUFFER THIS WAY,
I STILL INSISTED ON SLEEPING TOGETHER.
I'M SUCH A WILLFUL MAN.
I'VE SUDDENLY LOST ALL REASON.
heh
heh
heh
heh
dong
dong
dong
dong

dong
dong
dong
WOW, SO YOU'VE DRESSED UP IN AN IRIS-PATTERNED GARMENT, HUH?
I'LL BE ACCOMPANYING MOROE-SAMA'S MOTHER TODAY WHEN SIGHT-SEEING.
ICHIJOU* WILL PROBABLY BE PACKED AGAIN TODAY.
BE CAREFUL OUT THERE!
I brought Ajari-sama's cobalt pestle with me just in case.
I'd better be cautious...
YES!

*Ichijou = One of the main roads encompassing the imperial palace, see Ch. 4 Information

I'LL BREAK YOUR ARMS IF YOU MAKE A FUSS.
An ambush!?
Mm
I TOLD YOU TO BE QUIET!
Why should I listen!?
BITE
AH!
OUCH!!

Hey, you!
You're before the great left major general!
What do you think you're doing?
chatter
chatter
SMACK
ahh!
How dare you!!
Please help me! He's trying to abduct me!
ROLL
ROLL
STEP
Please help me!!
STEP
STEP
STEP
HOLD IT!
STEP
STEP
DASH

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!?
BANG
I AM .. NO LONGER A SERVANT'
NO .
dash
I'M FUJIWARA ...
MOROE-SAMA'S ..
MOROE-SAMA'S .!!
dash
collapse

PULL
NOW I'VE GOT YOU!
chatter
tighten
chatter
PULL
THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR HELP.
DON'T BE FOOLED BY HIS LOOKS.
HE'S JUST A DISOBEDIENT CHIGO.
Mm!
Uu
Hehe
THIS'LL BE A PERFECT SOUVENIR FOR TAKUSON-SAMA.
mm—
mm—
HEY,
UP ON YOUR FEET.
drag
drag
YOU'RE MAKING TOO MUCH OF A FUSS.
HURRY UP AND LEAVE!!
YES, OF COURSE.

Moroe-sama...
Moroe-sama...!
!
...
LEFT MAJOR GENERAL? WHAT'S WRONG?
六ノ巻 経
Chapter 6 End

Ouchou Haru no Koi no Romance

Bliss

Volume 2 Chapter 7

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*Tayuu = highest rank of courtesan or prostitute
TAYUU!!
TAYUU!*
WHY ARE YOU SO DAMN NOISY THIS EARLY IN THE MORNING?
step
SORRY TO CALL YOU OUT LIKE THIS,
BUT WE'VE GOT SOMETHING WE WANT YOU TO KEEP AN EYE ON 'TIL NIGHTFALL.

PUSH
THIS ONE HERE
MY MY
NN
STOP KIDDIN' AROUND.
HE'D PROBABLY FETCH QUITE A HIGH PRICE I WOULDN'T MIND MEDIATING FOR YOU
YOU WON'T FIND A BEAUTY LIKE THIS HERE IN THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CAPITAL VERY OFTEN.
AND WHERE DID YOU FIND THIS LITTLE ONE?

THIS CHIGO BELONGS TO TAKUSON-SAMA, MONSHU OF NYORIN TEMPLE
I FINALLY GOT A HOLD OF HIM AFTER SEARCHING ALL OVER THE CAPITAL
IF YOU GIVE HIM UP TO A CUSTOMER WHILE HE'S HERE,
YOU WON'T MEET A PRETTY END.
I'D CALL IT ADVICE.
hehe
YOU'RE RATHER CHEEKY FOR SOMEONE WHO'S ASKING ME FOR HELP.
hmph
TO BETRAY TAKUSON-SAMA IS TO BE SENT TO HELL
YOU KNOW, THE PREVIOUS MONSHU.
!?
I THINK THAT'S ENOUGH.
SAY SOMETHING CARELESS AND YOU MAY JUST BITE YOUR TONGUE
hehe
OOH, SCARY

What were they going to say? Did something happen to Ajari-sama!?
Did something happen to him because I ran away!?
ANYWAY, I'M COUNTING ON YOU.
IT'D BE TOO CONSPICUOUS DURING THE DAY, SO I'LL TAKE HIM BACK TO THE TEMPLE AT NIGHT
I'D USUALLY CHARGE 200 ZENI,
BUT I'LL LET YOU GO FOR 100.
YOU TALK BIG, WOMAN!
I CAN'T CHARGE YOU ANY LESS.
I MAKE MY LIVING DOING THIS, YOU KNOW.
BOARD-ING FEE.
ENOUGH DAWDLING. YOU WANT TO SEE THE FESTIVAL PROCESSION, DON'T YOU?
IF YOU DON'T HURRY IT UP, THE SAIOU-SAMA'S PROCESSION WILL BE GONE.
FINE, I'LL PAY YOU HALF FOR NOW.
I'LL GIVE YOU THE REST WHEN I COME BACK FOR THE KID.
hmph

TIE THE KID TO THAT PILLAR OVER THERE.
LEAVE THE MONEY AND GO ALREADY
IF HE ESCAPES, I WON'T LET YOU OFF THAT EASILY
LET'S GO!
YES, SIR.
flail
flail
THE GUYS WORKING FOR NYOIRIN TEMPLE'S NEW MONSHU ARE SUCH SIMPLE-TONS.
WELL, AT LEAST THEIR MONEY COMES IN HANDY
If it's only her I just need untie the rope somehow!!
IS THIS KIND OF BEAUTY REALLY ONLY WORTH 100 COINS?
ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH THAT AMOUNT?
click
stare
DO YOU REALLY NEED TO ASK?
hmph

BUT THAT MONSHU...
HE SEEMS TO BE A REALLY NASTY GUY WE HAVE TO COME UP WITH A GOOD IDEA.
YEAH, WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
DON'T RUSH ME I CAN'T COME UP WITH SOMETHING SO QUICKLY
PUT HIM IN THE BACK STOREROOM FOR NOW.
LET'S GO WATCH THE PROCESSION OUR-SELVES
WE'LL THINK ABOUT IT AFTER-WARDS.
LET'S GET YOU INTO THE STORAGE ROOM.
YOU KNOW, THE MORE I LOOK AT YOU..
ARE YOU REALLY A BOY?
No!
Mm-
Mm-
I GUESS YOU ARE..

No!
I BET YOU'VE CRIED OUT LEWDLY AFTER BEING THRUST INTO BEFORE, HAVEN'T YOU?
No... Mm—
BUT WITH A FACE LIKE THAT, WHAT'S THE POINT OF HAVING ONE OF THOSE DOWN HERE?
mmph
OOPS
HEY, QUIT PLAYING AROUND!
GET IN!
push
BE GOOD AND STAY IN THERE.
OKAY, OKAY, I GET IT
WE CAN DEFINITELY GET A GOOD PRICE FOR HIM. I'LL KNOW IF HE GETS DAMAGED!
HE PROBABLY HAS YET TO HAVE A TASTE OF MEN.
DON'T TOUCH THE PRODUCT CARELESSLY. REGARDLESS OF WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE,

YOU'RE YOUNG YOU DON'T WANT TO DIE LIKE THAT, RIGHT .?
.....
s l a m
click
SO, STAY IN THERE LIKE A GOOD BOY!
EVEN IF YOU ESCAPE, IF YOU GET CAUGHT BY THEM .
THERE ARE ONLY BAD PEOPLE LIVING AROUND HERE.
As if I'd just let myself be sold by you people!
twist
twist
twist
twist
twist
twist
YOU'LL BE RAPED UNTIL YOUR HIP BONES BREAK,
AND THROWN IN THE RIVER WHEN THEY'RE DONE USING YOU.

dong
dong
dong
step
step
step
step
*Murasakino, on the western side of the Kamo River where the Saiou underwent ritual purifying
EXCUSE ME, WHERE IS SAKON SHOUGEN-SAMA?
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR NARIHIRA-DONO, HE WAS ORDERED TO RIDE IN THE PROCESSION.
HE ALREADY LEFT FOR THE VIOLET FIELD *
IS THAT SO. .
IF YOUR MESSAGE IS URGENT, I CAN PASS IT ON FOR YOU.
THANK YOU SO MUCH!

Senju was taken away!?
IT'S A MESSAGE FROM THE LEFT LIEUTENANT GENERAL
shut
When!?
THE LEFT LIEUTENANT GENERAL TOLD ME TO TELL HIM THIS: "YOU SEEM TO FAVOR THAT CHILD. BUT BEFORE USING A SERVANT, YOU SHOULD FIRST INVESTIGATE HIS BACKGROUND LEST YOU BRING TROUBLE ONTO YOURSELF."
THAT'S RIDICULOUS ...!
SOMEONE WAS YELLING "HE'S A RUNAWAY SLAVE..."
THE LEFT LIEUTENANT GENERAL SAW IT AS HE WAS ATTENDING THE PROCESSION..
Senju isn't anyone's slave!
He must have been kidnapped! There must be a mistake!
I...
IT'S NO USE TELLING ME THAT.
OH SORRY.
sigh
lean

WE'RE WAITING FOR THE IMPERIAL MESSENGER RIGHT NOW!
B-BUT
CALM YOURSELF!
MOROE-SAMA
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
WE HAVE TO MERGE WITH THE IMPERIAL PROCESSION SOON!
Panic
ALL RIGHT?
CONTROL YOURSELF!
Step
The festival won't be over until this evening...!
Until then is there nothing I can do...?
MOROE-DONO
SENJU IS THE BOY YOU REALLY LIKED, ISN'T HE?
WE'VE ALSO HEARD SOME THINGS FROM NARUHIRA-SAMA.

IS THAT REALLY THE CASE?
SO,
IF THE TRUTH IS STILL UNCLEAR,
IT'S BEST NOT TO ACT RASHLY.
IS HE REALLY SOMEONE ELSE'S SLAVE?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
sigh
THEN WE JUST NEED TO ISSUE A COMPLAINT TO GET HIM BACK.
JUST CALM DOWN FOR NOW.
WE MUSTN'T RUIN THIS IMPORTANT FESTIVAL WITH MISCONDUCT.
WHEN SENJU WAS A BABY, HE WAS LEFT AT THE DOOR OF NYOIRIN TEMPLE.
THE MONSHU AT THE TIME, AJARI, BECAME HIS ADOPTED FATHER, SO HE ISN'T ACTUALLY A CHIGO.
THERE'S A LETTER OF PROOF WRITTEN BY AJARI HIMSELF!

The problem is,
what will happen to Senju in the meantime...?
Now that I know who it was, I just have to ask the temple to give him back.
That's right...
The one who insisted Senju was a slave and forcefully took him...
must have been one of Nyoirin's subordinates.
FINE.
I UNDER-STAND.
Yet someone still came to drag him back with hunting dogs.
Who could have done this?
means that Jien Ajari gave Senju his permission to leave the temple.
For Senju to be carrying that letter and pestle...
angry
angry
angry
angry
Mo
Mo
Mo
Mo

If I'd known this was going to happen, I wouldn't have let Senju walk around by himself. There were hunters on his trail when I first found him! What made me think they'd given up so easily? There wasn't any evidence suggesting that they were still after him, but even so, I still should've done...
Even if his life isn't in danger
His body isn't necessarily!!
What if Senju was kidnapped for his beauty!!?
I'm such an idiot!!
BANG
Ah

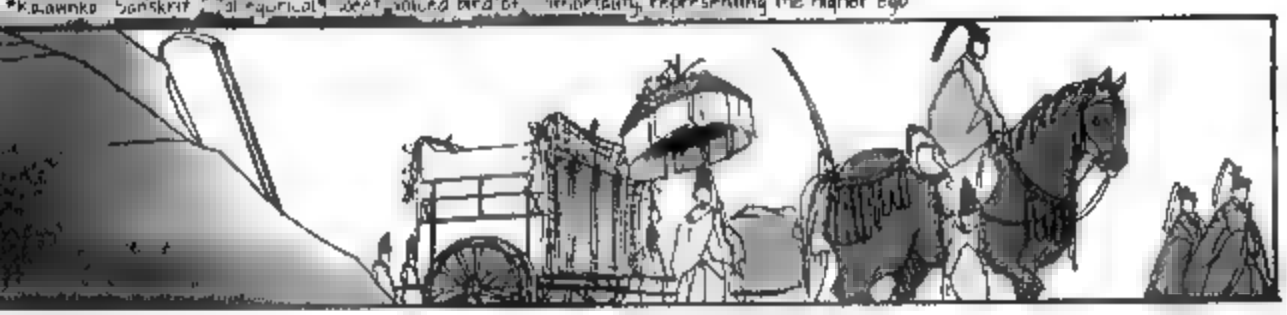
But his heart...
THUMP
And not just his body...
THUMP
kill himself would he
Sanju...
THUMP
Sanju
Sanju!
I can't just stay here and do nothing...!!
MORIE-SAMA!
ARE YOU GOING TO ABANDON YOUR RULE?

THE PROCESSION IS ABOUT TO BEGIN!
KEEPER OF THE IMPERIAL ARCHIVES, WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
EXPLAIN YOURSELF!
shake
shake
That's right...!
That man might be able to think of something...!!
turn
AH...
MOROEDONO!
YES?
RIGHT MAJOR GENERAL...
shift

I BELIEVE THAT MESSAGE JUST NOW SHOULD BE DELIVERED TO NARIHIRA-DONO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
I ASK FOR PERMISSION TO DO SO!
!...
YOU HAVE MY PERMISSION.
hm

THE MAN WHO IS AS STUBBORN AS A ROCK
"FELL DEEPLY IN LOVE WITH THE KALAVINKA-LIKE BOY WHO DESCENDED FROM HEAVEN."*
THAT'S WHAT NARIHIRA-DONO ONCE SAID TO ME.
IT APPEARS HE WASN'T JUST JOKING
YOU MUST REPORT THE WHOLE STORY TO ME LATER.
HOW-EVER,
YES!
OF COUR-SE!

*Kalavinka (Sanskrit) ... mythical ... beautiful ... bird of ... traditionally representing the higher ego



trot
WHAT'S WRONG?
trot
I HAVE A MESSAGE FROM THE LEFT LIEUTENANT GENERAL.
HE WANTED TO TELL YOU, "DON'T GET DRAGGED DOWN BY YOUR SUB-ORDINATES." BUT THE TRUTH IS. . SENJU WAS KIDNAPPED.
trot
trot
OH. ?
THE KIDNAPPERS ARE MOST LIKELY FROM NYOIRIN TEMPLE
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I SHOULD DO...
trot

t-r-o-t
COME TO MY PLACE AFTER WE REACH SHIMOGAMO SHRINE.
t r o t
UNDER-STOOD..
t r o t
t r o t
That's right, my mother is probably worried as well...

I'm sorry for worrying you...
KATSURAKO-SAMA JUST NOW..
YES.
WHEN SENJU DIDN'T COME AS PLANNED, I THOUGHT SOMETHING WAS WRONG.
SEEING MOROE'S FACE JUST NOW..
IT LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING HAPPENED TO SENJU AFTER ALL.
twist
twist
twist

It hurts but I have to endure it!
t w i s t
drip
NNG..
UGH..
Just a bit more!!
Almost...
t w i s t
t w i s t
So what if the skin on my wrists rubs raw?
I have to escape...
and return to Moroe-sama's side!
NN
MM..
NN
SNAP
It's loose!

huff huff
Ah
I LOST THE PESTLE AGAIN.
I'M SURE MORDE-SAMA WILL FIND IT FOR ME
NO NOTHING EVER GOES THAT SMOOTHLY, HUH. ?
Can I get out from up there somehow ?
clack
clack
clack
clack
IT WON'T OPEN

shift
glance
glance
!
Hup!
jump
step
step
OKAY, NOW!
I WONDER WHICH WAY THE PALACE IS...
flip
land

HEY, YOU!
shock
WHAT ARE YOU DOING UP THERE?
I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU BEFORE.
PLEASE LET ME PASS!
step
step
For now, I'll go north along the roofs towards that tower I saw!
step
step
step
step
tap
WHAT?
WHAT'S THAT?
IT'S GETTING PRETTY NOISY UP THERE, HUH?

At this rate...
step
step
step
Whoa! He's fast!
Is this guy an acrobat!?
step
step
step
step
he'll catch up to me!
HEY!
Jump
WHOA!

Ah.
grab
What!?
thud
Hm
Ha
ha
ha
He hit his head!
heh
heh
heh

BUT YOU SURE CAN RUN!
YOU LOOK LIKE SOME NOBLEMAN'S CHILD.
OH.
ARE YOU AWAKE?
jolt
I won't just let you sell me!
YOU'RE AN ACROBAT, RIGHT?
NO!
I am NOT an acrobat!
YOU RAN AWAY FROM YOUR TROUPE, HUH?
WITH THAT KIND OF SKILL, HOW COULD YOU NOT BE?
HE'S AN ALLEY CAT, ALL RIGHT I WON'T DO ANYTHING TO YOU, BOY
Get away from me!!
shift
NOW NOW, YOU'RE FAR TOO NOISY TO SELL OFF IN MY OPINION.

stare
wah wah wah
A CHIGO, YOU SAY ...?
I used to be a chigo, but now I'm a servant!
YOU'RE THAT LITTLE KID FROM NYOIRIN TEMPLE!
THAT'S RIGHT!
tap
OHHH!
NO WONDER HE LOOKED FAMILIAR! YOU GUYS, COME LOOK!
wow, he really is
YOUR NAME IS. ..
.....?
I remember now
SENJU-MARU! THAT'S IT!
ha ha ha ha
How many years has it been?

BUT.
BUT MY MASTER...
HE HAD A BEARD!
It was hushy like that
HEY NOW!
YOU RAN AWAY FROM THE TEMPLE TO BECOME MY DISCIPLE.
DON'T TELL ME YOU FORGOT YOUR MASTER'S FACE?
Hmph!
I SHAVED.
No way. No means no.
BUT
HE WAS REALLY TALL, TOO!
Please! Please let me be your student!!
No way. No matter what you say, I don't take students
Wah ha ha
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU WERE MUCH SMALLER THAN YOU ARE NOW.
stomp stomp stomp stomp
IS IT REALLY YOU...?
Ha ha ha
HEY! IT'S ME, IT'S ME!
Pat Pat
Ugh
THIS BRINGS BACK OLD TIMES!
I ONLY TAUGHT YOU A FEW TRICKS INSTEAD OF TAKING YOU ON AS MY STUDENT. I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D REMEMBER ANYTHING!

BECAUSE A CERTAIN SOMEBODY MADE HIM HIT HIS FOREHEAD.
SEE, HE'S ALL PALE.
shiver shiver
BOSS! THIS CHILD NEEDS TO REST RIGHT NOW.
BOSS, YOU'RE TOO NOISY.
turn
This is my normal voice
AFTER HITTING HIS HEAD THAT HARD, OF COURSE IT..
Wah ha ha
DOES YOUR HEAD HURT?
A LITTLE..
I HAVE TO WAIT ON THE MOTHER OF FUJIWARA MOROE-SAMA, THE MAN I SERVE, TODAY.
KATSU-RAKO-SAMA?
I'M SUP-POSED TO BE WITH KATSU-RAKO-SAMA!!
THE FESTI-VAL..!
TODAY'S THE DAY OF THE FESTIVAL, BUT..
WHAT BAD LUCK, HUH?

I HAVE TO GO BACK!
HEY, WAIT! IT'S TOO DANGEROUS TO GO BY YOURSELF
THERE ARE GROUPS OUT THERE WHO WILL TRY TO SELL YOU!
BUT.
THERE MUST BE PEOPLE WORRIED ABOUT ME RIGHT NOW!
IT'S ALRIGHT, I'LL GO FOR YOU.
BUT, THAT'S.
I'LL TELL THAT PERSON THAT ALTHOUGH YOU CAN'T COME, YOU'RE OKAY NOW
I WAS SUPPOSED TO ACCOMPANY HER TO THE FESTIVAL.
BUT I GOT KIDNAPPED ON MY WAY TO THE PALACE .!
I SEE
THAT'S WHY YOU WERE ESCAPING FROM THE TAYUU'S PLACE IN THE BROTHEL.
SPEAKING OF WHICH, BOSS, WHAT WERE YOU DOING OVER THERE?
UH...

Hch
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT
I CAN'T WATCH A CHILD AS BEAUTIFUL AS YOU.
GO OUT WITH A BIG BUMP ON YOUR HEAD LIKE THAT A
HUH?
WHICH MANSION IS IT?
KATSU-RAKO-SAMA SHOULD BE AT THE TOWER WATCHING THE FESTIVAL RIGHT ABOUT NOW
IT'S RIGHT OFF THE MAIN ROAD, RIGHT?
OKAY
THAT'S EASY
THERE AREN'T THAT MANY TOWERS THERE
OKAY YOU REST FOR A BIT
I'LL LISTEN TO YOUR STORY WHEN YOU'RE FEELING BETTER

throb
throb
throb
throb
wobble
.....
FOR NOW, LET'S HIM LIE HERE AND REST.
LOOKS LIKE HE HAS REALLY GONE THROUGH A LOT .
rub
clop
clop
clop
clop
THEY JUST FINISHED IN THE PROCESSION!
WHAT'S GOING ON!?
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
THAT'S .. THE SAKON SHOUGEN!?

Narihira-dono!!
neigh
clop
clop
clop
WHAT SHOULD WE DO!?

LEAVE IT TO ME
Heh
GET ON!
LET'S GO!!
shift
grab
clop clop
neigh
THANKS!

GEEZ...
THIS IS GETTING OUT OF HAND...
rub
EVEN NARIHIRA-DONO...
MO... MOROE-DONO!! WHAT ABOUT YOUR DUTY?
clop
clop
clop
clop
七ノ巻
Chapter 7
終
End

Ouchou Haru no Koi no Romance

Bliss

Volume 2 Chapter 8

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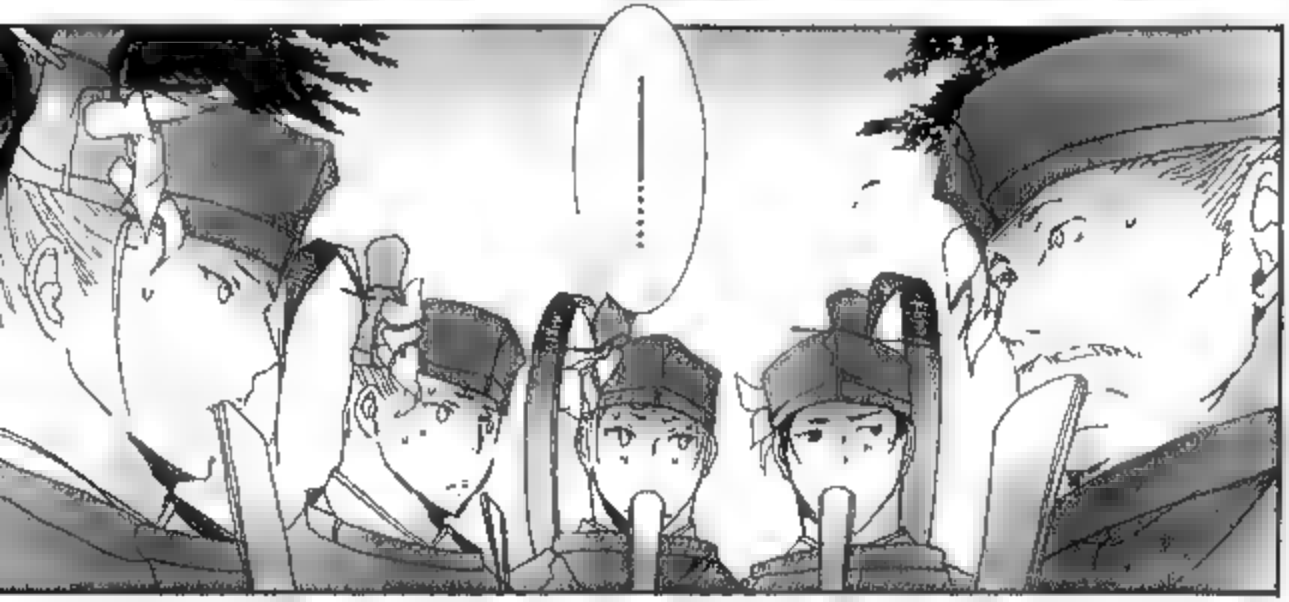
王朝春画ロマンセ
八ノ巻

clop
LET'S RETURN TO THE CAPITAL FIRST
WEARING OUR FORMAL ROBES TO THE TEMPLE COULD MAKE THEM MORE HOSTILE TOWARDS US, AND THAT'S THE LAST THING WE WANT
THEN LET'S GO TO MY HOUSE!
ALL RIGHT
clop
clop
clop
clop
clop
WELL, THOSE TWO HORSES ARE FLYING AWAY JUST LIKE ARROWS FROM A BOW.
I DON'T THINK MORDE IS EVEN WORRIED ABOUT FALLING OFF HIS HORSE
THEY'RE BARELY AVOIDING BEING RUDE LIKE THIS, BUT..
BUT THAT CHILD, SENJU NOT ONLY IS HE UNCOMMONLY BEAUTIFUL, HE IS ALSO HARDWORKING
IT'S NO WONDER MORDE FAVORS HIM SO MUCH, BUT..

HAVE YOU NOT MET HIM YET?
NO, I HAVEN'T
BUT I HEARD SOMETHING ABOUT HIM THAT STRUCK ME AS RATHER INTERESTING.
DO YOU ALL KNOW OF SENJU?
ACCORDING TO NARIHIRA-DONO,
THE CROWN PRINCE HAS A HIDDEN YOUNGER BROTHER BUT BECAUSE THE OLDER BROTHER IS SICKLY, THE PRESENCE OF ANOTHER HEIR WOULD CAUSE AN ARGUMENT OVER SUCCESSION,
AND DEBATE OVER WHO WOULD BECOME THE NEXT EMPEROR.
NO... NO WAY!
NARIHIRA-DONO REALLY SAID THAT SENJU WAS OF SUCH STATUS ...?

WELL, HE DIDN'T SAY IT DIRECTLY, BUT.
THE WAY HE PUT IT MADE IT SEEM LIKE IT WAS A DEFINITE POSSIBILITY.
WASN'T THE CROWN PRINCE'S NAME AT BIRTH "MANJU NO KIMI" ..?
BUT, ON THE OTHER HAND.
"The "Man" in Manju is a formal character for 10,000, while the "Sen" in Senju is 1,000.

MAYBE HE JUST TOLD YOU THAT STORY BECAUSE THE NAMES SENJU AND MANJU SOUND SIMILAR.
IF WE TAKE HIM SERIOUSLY, NARIHIRA-DONO WILL PROBABLY JUST LAUGH AND SAY,
"GOT YOU!"
BUT, JUST FOR EXAMPLE
SAY YOU TOOK ONE ZERO AWAY FROM "MAN" ..?
rustle!


.....!

YES. THAT WOULD BE WISE.
SHALL WE JUST LEAVE IT AT THAT, THEN?
I DON'T KNOW ANY-THING!
I HEARD NOTHING!
I DIDN'T HEAR ANYTHING TODAY!
NOTHING AT ALL!
SOME-ONE!
BRING ME TWO SETS OF CASUAL CLOTHING!
ALL RIGHT.
BRING US EBOSHI AND HEAD-BANDS, TOO! HURRY!!*
I'M FINE WITH THE HAKAMA I'M WEARING *
YOURS ARE TOO LONG FOR ME ANY-WAY

*Kariginu = casual clothing for nobility *Hakama = Formal clothing for nobility

*Eboshi = A hat originally worn by court nobles in ancient Japan, and afterwards spreading to the common people

MORDE-SAMA.
THE LADY HAS AN URGENT MESSAGE FOR YOU
MO-THER?
RIGHT NOW!?
THE LADY IS WORRIED SHE WILL HAVE TROUBLE SLEEPING TONIGHT.
WE'LL BE THE ONES WHO HAVE TROUBLE SLEEPING IF WE LISTEN TO HER.
HM? JUST TELL HER THAT SENJU WAS TAKEN BACK TO THE TEMPLE BY MISTAKE,
AND THAT YOU'RE COMING WITH ME TO BRING HIM BACK. THAT SHOULD PUT HER MIND AT EASE.
OF COURSE!
AS EXPECTED OF NARIHIRA-DONO, SLY AS ALWAYS.
DON'T PUT IT THAT WAY.
THAT JUST MAKES IT SOUND LIKE I'M ALWAYS BULLYING YOU.
SORRY.

NOT ONLY WOULD WE NOT HAVE FOUND SENJU, BUT WE WOULD HAVE BEEN DISGRACED AS WE...
SHOULD WE TAKE A LOOK? IF WE WENT TO NYOIRIN TEMPLE BY MISTAKE,
WHAT!?
AN ACROBAT WOMAN TOLD YOU THIS?
AND THAT HE'LL BE WAITING FOR YOU THERE.
SHE SAID THAT SENJU IS CURRENTLY BEING HARBORED AT THE ACROBAT'S LODGING PLACE

HOW POINTLESS.
WHY WOULD I WANT TO SEE YOU TWO GETTING ALL MUSHY AND EMBRACING EACH OTHER IN RELIEF?
YOU'RE NOT COMING?
THEN IT LOOKS LIKE MY ROLE IS DONE.
THAT'S WONDERFUL!

I KNOW. I'LL PAY YOU BACK IN ANY WAY YOU ASK.
MAKE SURE YOU PAY ME BACK.
YOU OWE ME A BIG FAVOR.
I'M GOING HOME NOW
I STILL HAVE A LOT TO PREPARE FOR TOMORROW'S KAERIDACHI NO GI CEREMONY *
NARIHIRA. I'M REALLY SORRY
*See Chapter 4 Information
WILL YOU LEND ME SENJU?
THEN...
YOUR HONESTY IS GOOD.
HURRY UP AND GO GET HIM.
YEAH.
YOU!
OTHER THAN THAT.
ANYTHING ELSE IS FINE!

HE'S IN HERE.
MORDE-SAMA!!
SENJU ...!!

MORDE-SAMA!!
AH...
SENJU ....
SENJU!
THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE ALRIGHT ..!!
HM?
What's with the bruise on your fore-head?
shock
I HIT MY HEAD BY ACCI-DENT WHEN I WAS RUNNING AWAY
....
thump thump thump

YOU POOR THING
IT MUST HAVE HURT
WHEN THE MEN FROM THE TEMPLE CAUGHT ME, THEY TIED MY HANDS UP WITH A ROPE
And your wrists!?
THE WORST THING IS THAT THOSE PEOPLE SAID YOU WERE A RUNAWAY SLAVE.
AND TREATED YOU LIKE THIS, EVEN THOUGH YOU DID NOTHING WRONG
PLEASE, YOU HAVE TO SAVE AJARI-SAMA!
I NEVER HAD THE CHANCE TO TELL YOU THIS BEFORE, BUT...
AJARI-SAMA LET ME LEAVE THE TEMPLE
BECAUSE HE WANTED TO STOP THE CURRENT MONSHU, TAKJSON, FROM USING ME
TAKJSON SEEMS LIKE HE KNEW OF A YOUNG NOBLEMAN WHO LOOKS A LOT LIKE ME.
SO HE WANTED TO USE ME TO GAIN SOME SORT OF POWER IN THE CAPITAL

AFTER AJARI-SAMA HELPED ME ESCAPE,
HE WAS GOING TO SPEND THE REST OF HIS DAYS IN A HERMITAGE.
SO THAT'S WHY YOU RAN AWAY FROM THE TEMPLE
I NEVER IMAGINED THAT POLITICS WOULD BE INVOLVED...
AT LEAST, THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT HE WAS GOING TO DO...
BUT THE PEOPLE WHO CAUGHT ME ACCIDENTALLY LET SLIP THAT THAT MIGHT NOT BE THE CASE...
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?
WHAT I HEARD WAS,
"TO BETRAY TAKUSON-SAMA IS TO BE SENT TO HELL.
THE PREVIOUS MONSHU *
THEN HE STOPPED TALKING

I THINK SOMETHING HAPPENED TO AJARI-SAMA BE-CAUSE HE HELPED ME!
SOMETHING BAD MUST HAVE HAPPENED...
THAT .. CERTAINLY IS WORRY-ING
MAY HAVE HAP-PENED.
BUT, I STILL FEEL LIKE SOMETHING UNFORTU-NATE ..
DON'T SAY SUCH ILL-OMENED THINGS.
HM SO THERE ARE MONKS WHO MISLEAD PEOPLE LIKE THIS
SHH!
That man said "to be sent to hell!"
That can't be all!
MAYBE HE WAS ONLY TREATED A BIT UNFAIRLY.
THAT'S A POSSI-BILITY AS WELL
UM THAT IS TO SAY..
BUT
As I thought!

SORRY.
I'M NOT AS ELOQUENT OR COMFORTING AS NARIHIRA-DONO WOULD BE.
AH...
BUT I KNOW YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT AJARI.
I FEEL THE SAME WAY.
FUJI-WARA-SAMA.
BUT IF SOMETHING TERRIBLE DID HAPPEN, THEN IT IS NO SMALL MATTER.

AS PERFORMERS, THERE ARE CERTAIN SKILLS WE POSSESS
I THINK WE SHOULD INFILTRATE THE TEMPLE FOR YOU
INFILTRATE?
YES. WE HAVE MET JIEN AJARI-SAMA BEFORE.
SO WE KNOW WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE
EVEN IF HE'S HIDDEN SOMEWHERE IN THE TEMPLE,
I THINK WE CAN FIND HIM.
YOU'RE GOING TO THE TEMPLE?
THEN I'M GOING WITH YOU!
YOU WAIT UNTIL THAT BRUISE ON YOUR HEAD HEALS FIRST.
hmph!

KURI NO TSUKASA'S WIFE, TOMOCHIME, WOULD SURELY BE OF ASSISTANCE.
THERE'S ALSO YURIMARU, A CHIGO WHO HELPED ME ESCAPE.
BY THE WAY, IS ANYONE IN THE TEMPLE ON YOUR SIDE?
IF SO, THINGS SHOULD BE EASIER.
IT DOESN'T TAKE LONG TO GET TO NYOIRIN
IF WE'RE GOING TO SNEAK INSIDE AND SNOOP AROUND, IT'D BE BEST TO DO IT AT NIGHT
I'M IN YOUR DEBT.
THEN LET'S HEAD OUT!
OKAY
OKAY
RIGHT NOW!?

tap
OH, THAT'S RIGHT.
MY MOTHER ASKED ME TO GIVE YOU THIS
UNDER-STOOD.
PLEASE INFORM ME AT MY MANSION.
IF YOU FIND OUT ANYTHING.

AH.
THERE'S SO MUCH
SHE SAID, "TO REPAY YOU FOR YOUR HELP, I WANTED TO GIVE YOU SOME FINE FABRIC,
BUT I HAD NOTHING SUITABLE FOR SUCH A YOUNG LADY."
TAKE IT
THIS IS ?

DID YOU GET ANY SLEEP?
NO.
IT WOULD BE A WASTE TO SLEEP NOW.
I SEE.
AH
I WAS SO WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
ch,rp

I ALSO WANTED TO RETURN TO MURJE-SAMA'S SIDE
I WOULD RATHER HAVE MY HANDS TORN OFF THAN BE SOLD AS SUMEJOE'S PLAYTHING
DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH I WANTED TO ABANDON MY DUTIES SO I COULD LOOK FOR YOU INSTEAD?
I'M SORRY
FOR BEING A USELESS COWARD
I WOULD HAVE CURSED MYSELF UNTIL MY DYING DAY FOR NOT COMMITTING MYSELF
TO LEAVE MY DUTIES AND SAVE YOU INSTEAD
LUCKILY YOU WERE ABLE TO ESCAPE
IF YOU HADN'T
IS THAT SO

THAT ISN'T TRUE!
I'VE NEVER THOUGHT THAT WAY ABOUT YOU!
THE REASON YOU COULDN'T ABANDON YOUR DUTIES, IS BECAUSE YOU'RE A VERY RESPONSIBLE PERSON.
I
LIKE THAT VERY MUCH ABOUT YOU!
. AND I LIKE YOU, AS WELL

I CAN'T LET MYSELF BE CAUGHT UP IN WHAT-IS
BECAUSE YOU'RE LYING IN MY ARMS NOW
SENJU DO YOU LIKE ME?
YES!
VERY MUCH
I'LL SIMPLY BE LIKE THAT MY BELOVED SENJU IS SAFE
MIDE-SAMA
I AM SO HAPPY
I TOO

!
YOU EVEN HAVE INJURIES ON YOUR BACK!?
AH, THIS IS... FROM WHEN THE GUARDS' KARIMATA ARROWS SCRATCHED ME..*
*Karimata dual pronged blunt arrows used to incapacitate but not to kill
HOW CRUEL...
NO, NOT ANY-MORE
AH...
lick
DOES IT HURT?

NN
...
kiss
kiss
AH
MORIOE-
SAMA

rustle
squish
NN
rub
rub
squish
squish
squish
squish
AAH
NN

..!
.....
I DON'T HATE IT AT ALL.
I WAS ..
JUST TRYING NOT TO MAKE ANY WEIRD SOUNDS ..
THAT'S WHY...
DO YOU NOT WANT THIS?
EH?
I THINK IT'D BE BETTER TO STOP ...
AH...
drip
FEEL VERY GOOD.
YES, MOROE-SAMA'S FINGERS...
THEN ..?
SLIP

IT FEELS GOOD ..?
I...
I'M SO EMBAR-RASSED..
THERE'S NOTHING TO BE EMBAR-RASSED ABOUT.
THIS FEELS GOOD,
DOESN'T IT?
YE...
YE...
YES...!
THEN LET ME HEAR YOU.
AND THE SOUNDS YOU MAKE WHEN YOU FEEL GOOD.
SO CUTE ..
AH...
AH...
AH...
AH...
VERY CUTE...
AH..!

I'M GOING IN
IS THAT OKAY?
Nngh ... Ah!
+thrust+
Nn ...
+thrust+

NGH ..
NN ...
DOES IT HURT?
DO YOU WANT ME TO STOP?
CAN YOU BEAR WITH IT? I'M .
I'M SORRY ..
thrust
SENJU ..!
JUST... A LITTLE MORE.
thrust
BEAR WITH IT...
PLEASE, JUST BEAR WITH IT ..
.....
AHH...
naa
naa

AH...
DOES IT HURT?
NO OF COURSE IT DOES.
I'M SORRY
IT FEELS SO HOT LIKE I'M GOING TO MELT
YOU MIGHT THINK I'M DESPICABLE,
FOR USING THIS KIND OF METHOD TO MAKE YOU MINE
BUT,
I'M SO HAPPY
BUT I'M REALLY HAPPY

I'M MOVING

Ah...

Ah!

I'M ALSO

VERY HAPPY

Ah!

Ahh!

SENJU

MORDE-SAMA...

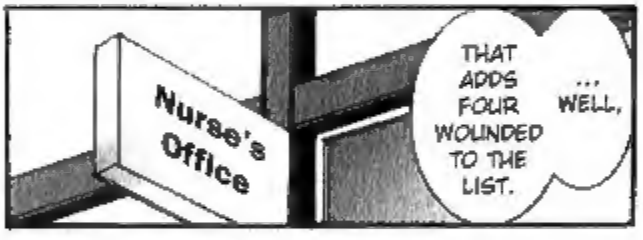
MORIE-SAMA
IT IS TIME TO GET DRESSED FOR THE DAY'S FES-TIVITIES
Ah
I've messed up
HN

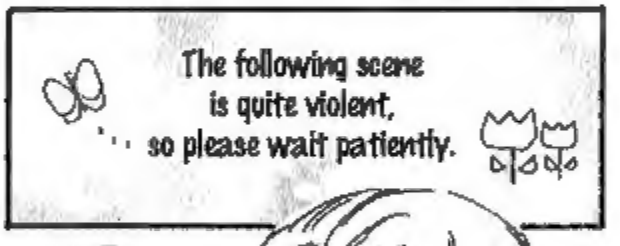
UNDER-STOOD..
I RESPECT-FULLY REQUEST A RE-PRIEVE."
"I HAVE REASON TO ABSTAIN FROM TODAY'S KAERIDACHI NO GI CER-EMONY.
. SORRY. SEND A MESSAGE FOR ME.
Z Z
Z Z Z
is to be able to do this...
The reason Narthira-dono sometimes is not present at court.
So this is it...

八ノ巻
Chapter 8

終
End

Haru no Yoiko no Romance Gakuen
平成! Heisei!
春の良い子のロマンセ学園
WHY DID YOU ALL CALL ME HERE?
TOKUSHOU-SENPAI, NINSHOU-SENPAI.. EVEN ENSHOU-SENPAI..
THERE'S ONLY ONE REASON WE'D CALL YOU OUT TO THIS EMPTY PE STORAGE ROOM, YOU KNOW.
kch
IT'S YOUR FAULT FOR FOLLOWING US.
NNL..
NNGH ...!
grab
LET GO ...!
SO NOISY... SHUT UP FOR A MINUTE!
WH...
WHAT ARE ...?
WE'LL TEACH YOU SOME-THING...
thud
YOU WON'T LEARN IN CLASS!
PLEASE STOP! I'LL BE LATE TO MOROE-SENSEI'S HISTORY CLASS!
Slide
YURI-MARU-SENPAI!
Ah...
WHO THE HELL!?
SEN-SEI!
THIS WAY! HURRY!





YES, I'M FINE NOW!
ARE YOU ALRIGHT SENJU!?
tiED
THANKS FOR GIVING ME EXTRA WORK.
hmph
state
SPEAKING OF WHICH, MOROE-SENSEI... GOING FAR FOR A SINGLE STUDENT CAN EASILY BE SEEN AS SPECIAL TREATMENT.
AREN'T YOU WORRIED THAT IT'LL COME OFF SUSPICIOUS?

bliss
http://bliss.diamond-virgin.net/

*The word for peace is "Heiwa," very similar to the word for the modern "Heisei" era that this story was placed in.

KOH・AKIZUKI & ICHI・YUZUKI・PRESENTS

■初出一覧
王朝春宵ロマンセ②
五ノ巻…Chara Selection 3月号('04)
六ノ巻…Chara Selection 5月号('04)
七ノ巻…Chara Selection 7月号('04)
八ノ巻…Chara Selection 9月号('04)
巻末まんが／描き下ろし

■この本を読んでのご意見、ご感想を編集部までお寄せください。
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